

In the claims: Amend the claims as follows

1.(currently amended) A machine tool facility equipped with a pallet exchanger for automatically exchanging pallets mounted on a table or on a pallet-mounting plate, comprising:

a machine tool having a main spindle supported to rotate about a horizontal axis and for mounting a tool on the front end thereof, and ~~a~~the table or ~~a~~the pallet-mounting plate facing the front surface of the main spindle and for detachably attaching a pallet to a vertical surface of ~~said the~~ the table or ~~of a~~ a pallet-mounting ~~face~~ face plate, the machine tool being designed to machine a workpiece fixed to a vertical work-attachment surface of the said pallet; and

wherein ~~said the~~ the pallet exchanger has having a base provided neighboring the table or the pallet-mounting plate and serving as a base plate for the pallet exchanger, a pallet support member provided on the base so as to rotate about a vertical axis thereof in an indexing manner, having at least two vertical pallet-mounting surfaces ~~on each of which a distinct and detachably mounting the~~ pallet can be removably mounted, and pallet-moving means for moving the pallet, in a vertical state wherein the vertical work attachment surface remains vertical, between the table or the pallet-mounting plate and the pallet support member to exchange the pallets; and

at least one pallet stocker provided near the pallet exchanger to detachably hold at least one of the pallets in the vertical state, and wherein the at least one pallet is moved in the vertical state by using the pallet-moving means so as to exchange the at least one pallet between the at least one pallet stocker and the pallet support member.

2.(currently amended) The machine tool facility as set forth in claim 1, ~~wherein said table or pallet-mounting plate has an extension, and~~ wherein the pallet support member of the pallet exchanger ~~has a pallet moving side and~~ is disposed at a position on ~~said an~~ an extension of the

table or the pallet-mounting plate in a horizontal direction at right angles with the axis of the main spindle, and the pallet-mounting surface of the pallet support member on the a pallet moving side is constituted to be in parallel with the pallet-mounting surface of the table or the pallet-mounting plate.

3.(currently amended - reinsertion requested)      The machine tool facility as set forth in claim 1 or 2, ~~further comprising at least one pallet stocker provided near the pallet exchanger to detachably hold a pallet in a vertical state, and to move~~ wherein the movement of the at least one pallet in a the vertical state between the at least one pallet stocker and the pallet support member occurs by using the pallet-moving means in the a radial direction ~~for a turning of a rotary circle of motion~~ of the pallet support member ~~so as to exchange the pallet relative to the pallet support member.~~

4.(currently amended)      The machine tool facility as set forth in claim 1, ~~also including wherein the base of the pallet exchanger travels on~~ a track laid in a horizontal direction at right angles with the pallet-mounting surface of the table or the pallet-mounting plate ~~wherein the base of the pallet exchanger travels on said track in said horizontal direction, said the~~ at least one pallet stocker each detachably holding a the at least one pallet in the vertical state is disposed near the track and, after the pallet support member and said at least one pallet stocker are aligned with each other, the at least one pallet is moved in the vertical state and is exchanged between the pallet support member and the at least one pallet stocker by the pallet-moving means.

5.(currently amended)      The machine tool facility as set forth in claim 4, wherein a plurality of machine tools are arranged on one side or on both sides of the track, and the pallets are

moved in the vertical state and are exchanged between a plurality of the pallet stockers and the plurality of machine tools by the pallet exchanger traveling on the track.

6.(currently amended)        The machine tool facility as set forth in ~~claim 4~~claim 1, wherein the pallet exchanger can be mounted on either a fixed-type base with which the pallet support member and the pallet moving means are used by being fixed onto the floor, or on a traveling-type base and the pallet support member and the pallet-moving means are used while traveling on ~~the~~ a track.